DOCKET NO.: DMCI-0026 (13253-00001)

Application No.: 09/462,576

Office Action Dated: October 7, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

PATENT

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for producing vanillin in cultured *Vanilla planifolia*, which comprises:

- a) providing a tissue culture of said Vanilla planifolia;
- b) supplementing the culture with a compound selected from the group consisting of malic acid at a concentration of about 3% by weight of the culture medium, 1mM 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde, and 30 µg/ml glycosylated lysozyme; and
- c) culturing the *Vanilla planifolia* in the presence of the compound, thereby producing vanillin.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tissue culture is an embryo culture.
- 3. (Canceled).
- 4. (Previously Presented) A method for producing vanillin in cultured *Vanilla planifolia*, which comprises:
 - a) providing a tissue culture of said Vanilla planifolia;
 - b) subjecting the culture to mechanical shear stress for 21 days; and
- c) adding malic acid at a concentration of between about 1% and 3% by weight of the culture medium.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the culture is supplemented with 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde at a concentration of between about 0.1 and 5 mM.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the culture is supplemented with about 0.01 to about 5% by weight of a compound selected from the group consisting of succinic acid, oxaloacetic acid, citric acid and pyruvic acid.

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7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the culture is supplemented with about 30 μ g/ml of glycosylated lysozyme.

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8-30. (Canceled)

- 31. (Previously Presented) A cell culture comprising *Vanilla planifolia* cells in a culture medium supplemented with an elicitor of vanillin synthesis selected from the group consisting of malic acid at 0.1-3% by weight, 1mM 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde, and glycosylated lysozyme at about 30 μ g/ml, wherein, after about 15 days exposure to the elicitor, the cell culture produces at least twice as much vanillin as a cell culture after 15 days in culture under equivalent conditions, in a culture medium which was not supplemented with the elicitor.
- 32. (Previously Presented) The cell culture of claim 31, which, after 15 days exposure to the elicitor, produces at least ten times as much vanillin as a cell culture after 15 days in culture under equivalent conditions, in a culture medium which was not supplemented with the elicitor.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The cell culture of claim 31, wherein the cells are embryo cells.
- 34. (Previously Presented) The cell culture of claim 31, wherein the cells are root cells.
- 35-43. (Canceled)
- 44. (Previously Presented) The cell culture of claim 31, which, after 7 days exposure to the elicitor, produces at least ten times as much vanillin as a cell culture after 7 days in culture under equivalent conditions, in a culture medium which was not supplemented with the elicitor.